



Wildland Fire Updates

July 20, 2013
Last Updated: 10:00 am

Contacts
Report Fires: 911
AFS/DOF Public Affairs: (907) 356-5511

Updates are provided as significant changes in activity occur.

Statewide Fires

A total of 73 fires are active statewide with 3 fires staffed. 475 fires have burned 1,072,855 acres so far this year. At 7:00 am today, Alaska remains at Preparedness Level 2.

7/20 Stuart Creek 2 Fire (#280): Alaska IMT continues making good progress on fire containment

Evacuation Watch for the Chena Hot Springs Road between Mileposts 27 and 39 has been lifted.

The Evacuation Watch along Chena Hot Springs Road between Mileposts 27 and 39 has been lifted by the Interagency Incident Management Team, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Fairbanks North Star Borough and the Alaska State Troopers.

The Type 2 Alaska IMT (Kurth) is in command of the fire. The fire is 57% contained and is 85,475 acres. 647 firefighters remain assigned to the fire. The west side of the fire remains fully contained. Fire crews will continue building line on the north and northeast corner of the perimeter along with mop up efforts as needed. Air resources will continue to provide support for hot spots within the interior on the northeast flank.

Two local RAWS station reported .62" and 1.01" inches of rain within the fire perimeter. Weather is expected to change to a drying out period starting today,

For more information on the Stuart Fire, please call: (907) 451-0590 ext. 30260 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.); follow on Twitter: #StuartCreek2 #AK #AKMID or visit: <http://inciweb.org/incident/3468/>

7/20 State Parks access also lifted along with exceptions.

Access restrictions on the Chena River State Recreation Area between MP-27 and MP-50.5 were also lifted. However, the exception remains on the south side of Chena Hot Springs Road between MP-27 and MP-39, which will remain closed. The entire Chena Hot Springs Road and the Chena Hot Springs Resort remain open.

7/20 Moon Lake Fire (#401)

The fire is 17,945 acres and remains north of the Tanana River. The fire is 12% contained. The crews have secured the east flank of the fire. IHC crews will continue to fell and buck snags and assist T2 crews in completing mop-up. The fire will continue to be monitored by air and boat. The fire is managed by a Type 3 Team. There are currently 160 personnel on this fire, including 7 crews and 2 helicopters. For more information please visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3459/>.

Smoke

All communities near the fire will probably see less smoke due to a wetter trend forecasted today and throughout the weekend. In the evenings and morning, smoke may sink to the lower elevation communities like North Pole, Fairbanks, and Eielson AFB. For information on smoke conditions, visit this website: <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/>. Smoke can pose health concerns for the public. Residents are encouraged to visit the "Protect Yourself from Smoke" website for smoke protection information at <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Wildfires/>.

It is very important that homeowners take time to create defensible space. The Alaska Firewise brochure provides guidelines for emergency preparedness and measures that can be taken to prepare a home and property for wildland fire. <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>.

Information on travel conditions and fire-related road closures can be found at <http://511.alaska.gov>.

Keep informed of local fire information sources and air quality reports. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has smoke information at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm> and <http://dec.alaska.gov/air/smokemain.htm>. For "Frequently Asked Questions" visit http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smoke_qa.htm.

7/20 Keeping Campfires Safe This Fire Season

The warmer and drier weather is rapidly drying out mosses, grasses, and other light fuels. These light fuels are the carriers of fire. Fire personnel have suppressed numerous human caused fires across Alaska this fire season. Currently, any spark can cause a fire.

Campers are advised that campfires are dangerous this time of year. Large fires and bonfires, fires that are throwing embers, or any fires that cannot be completely extinguished quickly create a serious risk.

Due to the severe potential for damage to natural resources, property, and human life, penalties may be imposed including fines and possible imprisonment (AS4115.140).

Preventing human-caused wildfires requires awareness and responsibility, and benefits our state resources and the safety of our communities.

"You are responsible for every fire you start"

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Information Gathering/Additional References

www.inciweb.nwccg.gov

www.twitter.com

Alaska Fire Service account: **@BLM_AFS**

Alaska Division of Forestry account:

@AK_Forestry Bureau of Land

Management account: **@BLMAAlaska**

National Park Service account:

@AlaskaNPS

US Fish and Wildlife Service account:

@USFWSAlaska Alaska Fire Consortium:

@AKfirescience www.facebook.com

BLM Alaska Fire Service account: **BLM Alaska Fire Service**

Alaska Division of Forestry account:

AK.Forestry Bureau of Land

Management account: **BLMAAlaska**

National Park Service account:

AlaskaNPS

US Fish and Wildlife Service account:

USFWSAlaska www.youtube.com

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AlaskaDNRDOF**

National Park Service account: **AlaskaNPS**

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>
- Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
- Alaska Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
- National Fire Situation Report: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
- Interagency Newsroom (Media Guide): <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group - Education and Reference Materials:
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>
- Alaska Fire Consortium: <http://akfireconsortium.uaf.edu>
- Protect your home and property!: <http://firewise.org/> and
- <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns):
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
- BLM Alaska Fire Service: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs/>
- Alaska Division of Forestry: <http://forestry.alaska.gov>
 - Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>
- National Parks Service: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/nature/fire/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

AICC Wildland Fire Update is compiled by Alaska Division of Forestry and BLM Alaska Fire Service